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(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2007/0169901 A1****Werz**(43) **Pub. Date: Jul. 26, 2007**(54) **PROCESS FOR IMPREGNATING  
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**ABSTRACT**(21) Appl. No.: **11/646,189**(22) Filed: **Dec. 27, 2006**(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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In a process for impregnating woodchips with substances dissolved and/or emulsified in water as impregnating agents for improving the elastic, mechanical, chemical and/or biological properties by vacuum impregnation and drying with dry steam, the woodchips are mixed with the substances dissolved and/or emulsified in water. The mixture is then evacuated to a pressure of 0.05 to 0.075 MPa and, after a contact time of 30 to 300 seconds, is treated with dry steam at 2 to 4 bar gauge pressure. Woodchips impregnated by the process are suitable in particular as a filler for wood/plastic composite materials.